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NEWS  
WORTH  
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## Dog found frozen outside home

SPCA is determining whether animal cruelty charges can be laid

PAGE 3

## HMCS Toronto crew member found dead in hotel

Sailor was on shore leave in Seychelles

PAGE 7

## I scream, you scream, we all scream for big screen

What's coming up in 2014

PAGES 12-13

## LOCAL MUSICIAN-TO-SURVIVOR NOTE BUOYS SPIRITS

MATT MAYS' WISH-GRANTING REVIVES COLUMNIST'S APPRECIATION FOR HALIFAX

PAGE 14



## JUNIORS KNOCK OFF SWISS

Team Canada goaltender Zachary Fucile, who plays for the Halifax Mooseheads, celebrates with forward Charles Hudon after defeating Switzerland 4-1 in quarter-final action at the IIHF World Junior Hockey Championship in Malmo, Sweden on Thursday. Canada will face Finland in semifinal action on Saturday. Story, page 18. FRANK GUNN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

# Halifax to get snowed in

**Tired of this weather, you say?** More snow than normal fell last month, and more is on the way



RUTH DAVENPORT  
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Winter-weary residents of HRM might not believe that snowfall amounts in December didn't come close to breaking any records — but they're not wrong in thinking it was a bad month weather-wise.

About 70 centimetres of snow fell in Halifax last month, well above December's average of 43.9 centimetres.

"You're sitting 25 centimetres above (normal)," said Environment Canada meteorologist Linda Libby Thursday. "That's about a third over, so that's, I would say, relevant."

However, the snowfall is well shy of the record of 185.2

centimetres, set in 1970.

Libby said there are a few reasons that residents may feel that bad weather was more unrelenting than normal last month — Decembers have been relatively snow-free since 2007, the last time the snowfall reached similar levels.

There's also the fact that the bad weather was, well, unrelenting.

"My perception was that we didn't get a lot of bright sunshine in December," she said. "Every day or couple of days we would have a weather system coming through, practically two a week for pretty much the whole month."

Blizzard and blowing snow warnings had been issued for all of Nova Scotia on Thursday, ahead of another system expected to batter the Maritimes into Friday evening.

Libby said the snow amounts and wind speeds wouldn't be that bad on their own, but the combination creates dangerous blizzard conditions.

"There's areas where we're

Let it snow

## 30 cm

The amount of snowfall that some parts of Halifax could get with this latest storm.

looking at essentially zero visibility," she said. "We really don't recommend people driving in the worst of this weather system, probably from noon (Friday) onward, it'll be very bad."

The worst of the storm should be over by Saturday morning, and by Monday, Libby said residents can expect rain and temperatures well above zero.

"The next weather system is coming from the southern Great Lakes ... up the St. Lawrence," she said. "So that's going to allow some warmer air to rush back in as the ridge that's over us kind of gets deflected."

More coverage, page 4

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# SPCA investigating case of dog found 'frozen solid'

## Animal cruelty.

American Staffordshire terrier found frozen to death outside home in North Preston



**PHILIP CROUCHER**  
philip.croucher@metronews.ca

The SPCA is determining whether animal cruelty charges can be laid against the owner of a dog found frozen to death outside a North

Preston home two days before Christmas.

David Ross, chief provincial inspector for the SPCA, confirmed Thursday that officials went to a home in North Preston on Dec. 23 after receiving a complaint from a concerned citizen.

Upon arrival at the Simmonds Avenue property, Ross said they found an American Staffordshire terrier frozen to death inside a dog house.

Ross said the dog was chained to the dog house, and had to be extracted by

## Quoted

**"It was actually frozen to the ground."**

David Ross, chief provincial inspector for the SPCA

investigators.

"We can't tell at this time," Ross said when asked for a cause of death. "It was frozen solid. It was dead. It was chained. It was inside the dog-house. That's all we can tell you at this point."

The dog's body was seized

and has been given to the province's agriculture department to determine a cause of death. When they get the results, Ross said they can then determine if this was a cause of animal cruelty, and whether criminal charges are warranted.

"It could've died for a number of reasons and not been removed from the dog house," he said. "I don't want to speculate (on a cause of death) because I don't know."

A RCMP officer driving by at the time stopped to assist with SPCA investigators as

they went inside to speak with someone at the home, Ross said. He said no other dogs were seized.

He said the person they spoke to said the animal's owner, a man, wasn't at home. Ross said they have yet to speak with the owner.

"It's something we do see at this time of year," he said of animals being found frozen to death. "These are not isolated incidents."

Ross said the SPCA was back in North Preston Thursday following up on other animal-cruelty complaints.

## Autopsy complete. Burned remains of man deemed a homicide, police say

Police are providing few details about what they now say is HRM's first homicide of 2014 after the burned remains of a man were found on New Year's Day at Oakfield Provincial Park.

An autopsy was conducted Thursday and RCMP spokesperson Cpl. Scott MacRae said the results showed the man was killed, although he provided no other details, including cause of death.

"Any details around the man's death are not being released at this time," MacRae said.

A passerby discovered the body Wednesday at Oakfield Provincial Park in Grand Lake, about 35 kilometres north of Halifax.

The body was removed from the scene as the RCMP and the medical examiner's office investigated.

MacRae says they are appealing to the public for information on the case, but wouldn't say if they had brought anyone in for questioning.

MacRae couldn't say whether the killing was random or not. **PHILIP CROUCHER/METRO**

## Identity not released

- Police have confirmed the victim's identity, but would not release it Thursday pending the notification of his next of kin.



## Vehicle crashes into apartment in Bedford

No one was hurt when a driver crashed her car into a ground-floor apartment in Bedford on Thursday morning. It wasn't clear what happened to cause the accident, which left the vehicle halfway through a window on the bottom floor of the building at 90 Nelsons Landing. **PHILIP CROUCHER/METRO**

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## 'Emotionally profound.' Stabbing victim marvels at love, support received

Scott Jones posted a message to his friends, family and supporters through Facebook on New Year's Day about 2013 being a tough year for him.

"This year was one of the hardest years of my life," wrote Jones, who was stabbed and left paralyzed following an early-morning attack on Oct. 12 in New Glasgow. "It was also one of the most enlightening and emotionally profound."

The Jan. 1 message was posted to his Facebook page and to Don't Be Afraid, an awareness campaign against homophobia.

Jones, a community-minded musician and choir director, was walking from a bar following an art opening when he was stabbed in the back and left on the street.

Police arrested Trenton native Shane Matheson within a day of the stabbing. He has been charged with attempted murder, aggravated assault and possession of a weapon dangerous to the public peace.



Scott Jones FACEBOOK

Jones said things changed for him when he started to get support from across the country following the attack.

"Then love started to pour in around me — and it poured hard! People were so, so helpful — visiting, sending messages, donations, bringing food, organizing events," he wrote. "There is something so beautiful about human beings trying to help other human beings in need." **NEW GLASGOW NEWS**

## Millbrook. Man, woman arrested after altercation leads to shooting

A man and a woman are expected to face charges after someone was shot during an altercation at a home Wednesday in Millbrook.

RCMP say a 25-year-old man suffered non-life-threatening injuries.

A 19-year-old man was pepper sprayed during the same incident and treated in hospital.

Halifax Regional Police say two suspects, a 21-year-old man and a 25-year-old woman, were arrested in Dartmouth on Wednesday

### Details

The RCMP say the incident was not a random act.

night.

Both the man and woman are expected to be charged with attempted murder, according to the RCMP. The woman will also face a single charge of assault with a weapon, police say.

**METRO**

### St. Francis Xavier

## University student killed in Tanzania car crash

An official at St. Francis Xavier University says a popular student has died in a car crash in Africa.

University vice-president Ramsay Duff sent an email to students and staff this week saying Melissa Landry was working as a volunteer at an orphanage in Tanzania at the time.

**THE CANADIAN PRESS**

### Dartmouth

## Man faces charges in barbershop shooting

A 23-year-old man is facing charges after shots rang out inside a Dartmouth barbershop this week.

The shooting happened Tuesday in a strip mall at 118 Wyse Rd. Police say one or two men entered the shop and opened fire. There were about 20 people inside at the time, and no one was reported injured. **METRO**



## Cold that puts smoke on the water and turns toes deep purple

A Metro Transit ferry crosses the harbour through sea smoke — formed when very cold air moves over warm water — in Halifax on Thursday, which was a bitterly cold day as temperatures dipped to around -30 C with the wind chill. **ANDREW VAUGHAN/THE CANADIAN PRESS**

# Snowy December 'taxing' on HRM

## 'Growing pains.'

Acting winter-works superintendent says staff, budget feeling the effects of wetter-than-usual weather



RUTH  
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HRM's acting winter-works boss says a snowy December took a toll on his department.

"It's certainly taxing on the budget, taxing on the staff," acting winter-works superintendent Darrin Natalino said Thursday. "Hope is not a good operational strategy ... but let's keep our fingers crossed and hopefully December is the

### Now

1,119

The number of tickets recorded for winter parking-ban violations from Dec. 15 to Jan. 2

worst of it."

About 70 centimetres of snow fell in Halifax throughout December, well above the normal of 44 centimetres, and far above the amount recorded in December 2012.

HRM's snow-removal budget rose to \$20 million this year from \$17.8 million in 2012, primarily to accommodate the addition of sidewalk-clearing costs on the peninsula.

New snow-removal contractors faced intense criticism after the first storm of the season when those sidewalks —

### Then

1,326

The number of tickets issued for same time period in the previous year.

previously cleared by residents — weren't cleared in accordance with the city's standards, leaving them dangerously icy.

Natalino said there have been discussions with the crews in question and changes made where required.

"We've certainly gone through some growing pains dealing with some new vendors and changed routes and new vendors on different routes," he said, adding financial penalties were imposed on contractors that didn't meet service standards.

Natalino said it's not clear yet how much of the snow-removal budget has been spent, but with the bulk of the winter season still to come, he's not anticipating a financial squeeze.

"Snow and ice is a pretty important thing, so I don't think we'll let that purse empty," he said.

Natalino spoke Thursday ahead of a blizzard expected to bring up to 30 centimetres of snow to HRM. He said the cold temperatures will make the snow lighter and easier to plow — but also easier for strong winds to blow around.

"Snow will just blow back in and drift into streets that we've just plowed," he said. "So oftentimes it will look like a street hasn't been plowed when in fact it was plowed just a few hours earlier."

# Store clerk stabbed in violent robbery

Police are looking for two people who were seen fleeing in a white car after a worker at a Fall River convenience store was stabbed during a violent robbery.

The RCMP were called to the Petro Canada on

Highway No. 2 around 8:45 p.m. Wednesday. Police say a man entered the convenience store portion of the gas station, approached the checkout counter and stabbed the employee while he demanded

money.

The suspect then fled the store in the car with a woman, while the victim was taken to hospital by paramedics with a non-life-threatening stab wound. **METRO**

### Suspects' descriptions

Police say one suspect is a white man, 18 to 20, about five-foot-six. The other is a white woman, 18 to 20.





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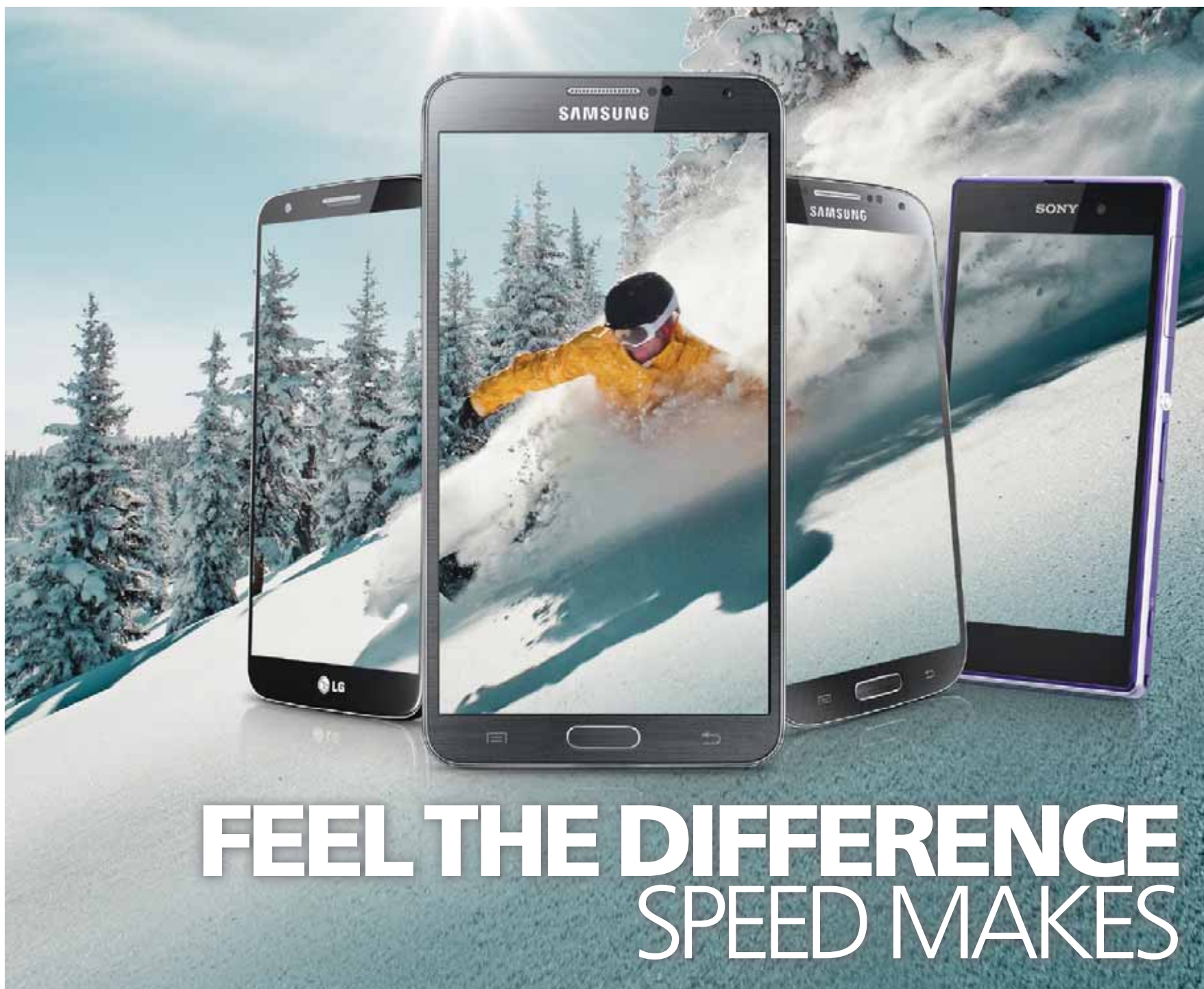


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## Local sailor found dead on shore leave

A crew member of a Canadian warship has been found dead while on shore leave in the Seychelles islands in the Indian Ocean.

The military has identified him as Lt. Andrew F. Webster, based out of Halifax.

Webster was serving on board HMCS Toronto, which has been part of counter-terrorism and anti-piracy operations in the Arabian Sea for most of this year.

The Department of National Defence says Webster was

found dead in his hotel room on Thursday afternoon.

The military says local police are handling the investigation but says the death is non-combat-related and foul play is not suspected.

Defence Minister Rob

Nicholson is offering his condolences to Webster's family.

"The loss of any member of the Canadian Armed Forces is tragic and affects each and every one of us on the defence team," Nicholson said in a statement. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**



### Headlong into the spine-chilling, toe-curling depths

A reveller leaps from the government wharf into the frigid North Atlantic in the annual New Year's Day bear swim in Herring Cove on Wednesday. Dozens of people take the plunge into the cold water each year on Jan. 1. **ANDREW VAUGHAN/THE CANADIAN PRESS**

## N.S. may see dearth of health workers

### Looking forward.

Aging workforce may leave crisis behind as they reach retirement

Nova Scotia's new health minister is being warned the province could face "alarming" shortages across a range of professions in the health-care system as workers approach retirement, which includes a shortage of 800 nurses within five years.

The warning is contained in ministerial briefing notes prepared by the Health Department soon after the Liberals took power two months ago.

"Current supply levels for professions in the province

### Action plan

**"Everyone sees (shortages) coming, but I'm not sure any one group has the right answers."**

Janet Hazelton, president of the Nova Scotia Nurses' Union

are monitored and are relatively stable; however, future shortages predicted in certain sectors are alarming," says the document, obtained under freedom-of-information legislation.

The notes identify specific areas that need to be watched: "Professions requiring close monitoring include physicians, registered nurses, licensed practical nurses, continuing-care assistants and lab and diagnostic imaging staff to name a few."

The best available data is

for the province's 10,000 registered nurses. Health Department figures show about 45 per cent of registered nurses are over the age of 50 and many will be able to retire in the next five years.

The department says there could be a "gap" of about 800 registered nurses if a number of factors remain the same, such as the number of seats in nursing schools, the number of nurses projected to retire and demands that are placed on the system.

Health Minister Leo Glavine

said solutions might include increasing the number of seats available at universities and colleges, along with stepping up international recruitment.

Glavine also said the government would have to look at incentive programs, as well as different ways of delivering care that maintain high levels of service with fewer staff.

The president of the Nova Scotia Nurses' Union said the looming shortage of nurses is a "huge" problem to a system already dealing with fewer staff.

Janet Hazelton said a shortage of 800 would be equal to losing the entire nursing staff at the IWK Health Centre, or would be more than the total number of registered nurses now working in Cape Breton.

**THE CANADIAN PRESS**



It's a new year. Recycle your old electronics.

If one of your New Year's resolutions is to declutter your home, why not start with the old electronics that have been hanging around since before Y2K didn't happen? Bring your outdated or broken gadgets, free of charge, to one of Electronic Products Recycling Association's (EPRA) Drop-off Centres. We'll make sure they are recycled responsibly, helping preserve natural resources for many environmentally-happy new years to come.



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# After train fires, U.S. officials issue alert about Bakken oil

**Flammability.** Crude shipped from Bakken oil patch is potentially more volatile than the traditional variety

Following a string of explosive accidents, federal officials said Thursday that crude oil being shipped by rail from the Northern Plains across the U.S. and Canada may be

more flammable than traditional forms of oil.

A safety alert issued by the U.S. Department of Transportation warns the public, emergency responders and shippers about the potential high volatility of the crude being shipped from the Bakken oil shale patch in Montana and North Dakota.

The warning comes after the massive explosion caused by an oil train derailment on Monday near Casselton, N.D.

No one was hurt, but worries about toxic fumes prompted the evacuation of hundreds of residents.

The oil boom in the Bakken has reduced the nation's reliance on imported oil and brought thousands of jobs to the region. But as companies have increasingly relied on trains to get that oil to lucrative coastal markets, public safety in communities bisected by rail lines has become a major concern.

In July, 47 people were killed in Lac-Mégantic, Que., when a train carrying Bakken crude derailed. Another oil train derailed and exploded in Alabama in November, killing no one but releasing an estimated 749,000 gallons of oil from 26 tanker cars.

The amount of oil moved by rail has spiked since 2009, from just more than 10,000 tanker cars to a projected 400,000 cars in 2013.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Safety alert

Thursday's safety alert was partly due to results of preliminary tests on Bakken oil to determine just how dangerous it is, said Jeannie Shiffer with the U.S. Department of Transportation's Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration.

Shiffer said it is important

to know the volatility of the oil so that it can be properly handled during shipping.

The issue of volatility is of particular importance for emergency responders who have to deal with accidents like the one in Casselton, said Fred Millar, a rail safety consultant in Virginia.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



## Ford more years for Toronto's troubled, yet defiant mayor?

Toronto Mayor Rob Ford officially shows his passport to a city clerk Thursday, as he registered as a candidate for the city's 2014 municipal election in October. Toronto's troubled yet defiant mayor isn't allowing months of scandal to stop him from entering what's likely to be the most watched municipal race in the city's history. Rob Ford was first in line at city hall to sign up for the Oct. 27 mayoral election when the nomination period opened Thursday. He expressed confidence that he'll win "Ford More Years" in the top job, despite admitting to using crack cocaine in a "drunken stupor" and making a crude sexual comment on live TV, among other cringe-worthy incidents that have garnered international attention and made him the butt of jokes on late-night shows. VICTOR BIRO/THE CANADIAN PRESS

## J.K. Rowling

### Lawyer fined for spilling author's secret identity

A lawyer who let slip J.K. Rowling's secret thriller-writer identity has been fined 1,000 pounds (\$1,645 US) for breaching client confidentiality rules.

Chris Gossage of London law firm Russells Solicitors —

which represents Rowling — told a friend of his wife that the Harry Potter creator was author of The Cuckoo's Calling, published last year under the name Robert Galbraith. The friend tweeted the information, and it was followed up by the Sunday Times.

The law firm apologized and paid damages to Rowling for the leak.

Sales of the book rocketed after Rowling was outed as its author. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Synthetic marijuana

### Breaking Bad contest winner charged for drug op

Authorities say a Florida man who won a contest to watch the series finale of Breaking Bad with the cast has been charged with running a drug distribution operation.

The Lee County Sheriff's Office says Ryan Lee Carroll

sold synthetic marijuana and shipped it across the U.S. from his home with two other men. He was arrested on New Year's Eve.

Authorities seized more than \$1 million US in synthetic marijuana during a bust.

According to deputies, the suspects used a cement mixer to create the drugs. The drugs were shipped through the U.S. Postal Service.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## H1N1. Young parents embracing flu shot: Poll

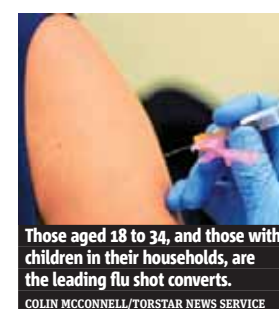
Increasing numbers of adults in their child-rearing years are becoming convinced that getting a flu shot for themselves and their children is a good idea, a new poll suggests.

The Harris/Decima poll, done for The Canadian Press, found that those aged 18 to 34 and those with children in their households were the two demographics that had the highest rates of flu-shot converts than any other.

"What appears to be occurring is that over the years younger Canadians and parents are particularly becoming more convinced that they will do it (get a flu shot) in the coming year if they haven't done it very often in the past five," said Doug Anderson, senior vice-president for public affairs for the polling firm.

With this year's flu season shaping up to be an H1N1 year, that's a good thing.

Newly released data from researchers at the British Colum-



Those aged 18 to 34, and those with children in their households, are the leading flu shot converts.

COLIN MCCONNELL/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

bia Centre for Disease Control suggests children under five are the most vulnerable segment of the population when it comes to this family of flu viruses.

Less than 20 per cent of children under age five have antibodies to H1N1 viruses. That's not really a surprise; they would have been born after the 2009 pandemic that brought the H1N1 virus into the mix of flu viruses that circulate during the Northern Hemisphere winter.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Stafford slaying. Rafferty turned down for legal aid for appeal of conviction

Ontario's Ministry of the Attorney General will be picking up the tab for an appeal attempt by the man convicted of killing eight-year-old Victoria Stafford.

Michael Rafferty's lawyer says he has again been turned down for funding from Legal Aid Ontario after a judge ordered last month that it reconsider Rafferty's case.

Appeal Court Justice Marc

Rosenberg had ruled the case is too complex for someone with a Grade 9 education in segregation and with no access to a law library to handle on his own.

Rafferty had been turned down four times by Legal Aid since his convictions in May 2012 for first-degree murder, sexual assault causing bodily harm and kidnapping in Tori's death. THE CANADIAN PRESS



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## Disappearing privacy. Snapchat to issue more secure app after breach

Snapchat says it plans to put out a more secure version of its application following a breach that allowed hackers to collect the usernames and phone numbers of some 4.6 million of its users.

The disappearing-message service popular with young people said in a blog post late Thursday that the updated version of its app would allow users to opt out of its "Find Friends" feature and would stem future attempts

### \$3 billion offer

The incident bruises the image of a young company that reportedly turned down a buyout offer from Facebook.

to abuse its service.

The breach occurred after security experts warned the company at least twice about a vulnerability in its system.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Snapchat CEO Evan Spiegel. Hackers of the disappearing-message service posted usernames and numbers online. JAE C. HONG/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

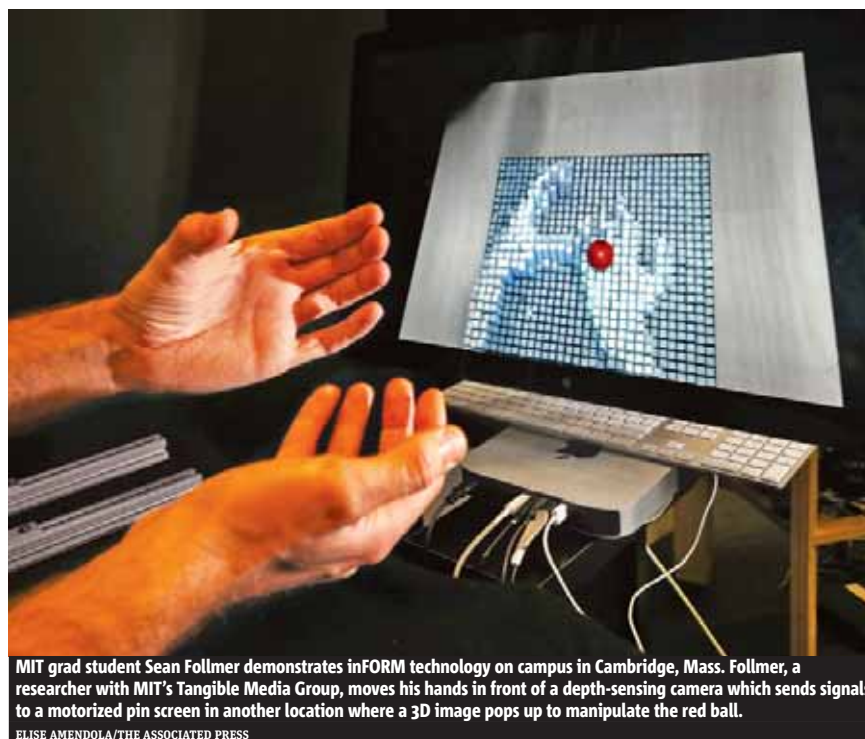
# Transporter? Almost

MIT. Researchers have found a way to render 3D images of people and things remotely

Researchers at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology have found a way to allow people in one place to interact with 3D versions of people or objects in a different location.

MIT's Tangible Media Group calls the technology inFORM. A person in one location moves or puts an object in front of a depth-sensing camera. That camera sends signals to a motorized pin screen somewhere else and that's where the 3D image pops up. If someone on camera is moving his hands, for example, that movement would show up on the pin screen in another location.

They hope the technology can eventually be used by urban planners and architects. It could also be used by doctors and others who need to look at CT scans. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



MIT grad student Sean Follmer demonstrates inFORM technology on campus in Cambridge, Mass. Follmer, a researcher with MIT's Tangible Media Group, moves his hands in front of a depth-sensing camera which sends signals to a motorized pin screen in another location where a 3D image pops up to manipulate the red ball.

ELISE AMENDOLA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### Solution: Buy heavier safe

## Thief carries 250-pound safe out of restaurant, gets good workout

Massachusetts police are searching for a strong-armed thief who carried a 250-pound safe out of a restaurant.

Kevin Hynes says a man walked out of his Stockholders Steakhouse in Weymouth on Sunday night lugging the vault.

Surveillance tape

shows the man entering a side door at the rear of the restaurant, heading down the stairs and coming back up carrying a large object wrapped in a trash bag.

No arrests have been made.

Hynes isn't saying how much money was in the safe, but he's offering a \$2,500 reward for information leading to the man's arrest.

He says he's since bought an even heavier safe and bolted it to the concrete floor.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### Market Minute

**DOLLAR**  
93.69¢ (-0.33¢)

**TSX**  
13,594.19 (-27.36)

**OIL**  
\$95.44 (-\$2.98)

**GOLD**  
\$1,225.20 (+\$22.90)

**Natural gas:** \$4.263 (+\$0.071)  
**Dow Jones:** 16,441.35 (-135.34)

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# HERE'S LOOKING AT YOU, FUTURE

Looking backward with pride and forward with hope? Probably not, but I have peered deep into my crystal ball, emerging with a clear vision of the coming year.

The good news is, 2014 will likely not be as crazy as its predecessor, but then again, if I am your go-to psychic, then you're screwed already. Here is what you can expect:

**1** **is the new \_\_\_\_.** Orange is the new black, 45 will be the new 30, cannabis will be the new tobacco, prescription A.D.D. meds will be the new crack, and all will serve as criteria for Toronto's new mayoral candidates.

**2** **Why so secretive?** Edward Snowden will gain enough public support to be exonerated for his alleged crimes, but will continue to find his friends a little stand-offish.

**3** **Bad girls playing good.** Lindsay Lohan makes a comeback, generating Oscar buzz for her portrayal of a young Mother Teresa.



THE METRO LIST

Mike Benhaim

metronews.ca

**4** **Baby mama once more.** Kim Kardashian will get pregnant again and give daddy Kanye West a son who shall be named Wild-Wild.

**5** **Totally believable scenario.** Justin Bieber will pay German officials to retrieve his monkey, which will be trained to walk his new bulldog, pick up its poop and fling it at unattractive or overweight fans.

**6** **Bad girls going God.** Miley Cyrus will make a spiritual pilgrimage to the Middle East, where she will consume the unknown fruit of a mysterious tree that will cause her to feel modesty and cover her nakedness with a fig leaf and a fragment of parchment. And army boots.

**7** **X-actly what we need.** The X Factor USA judge Paulina Rubio will leave the show to judge The X Factor Mexico. She'll be replaced by Nicki Minaj for a win-win situation where Mexico gets a mentor whose insight can finally be understood, and the American version maintains the delicate balance of verbosely incoherent babbling.

**8** **Bynum, by then.** Andrew Bynum, one of the NBA's most overpaid per-game players ever, will join the Miami Heat for the league minimum. Bynum's propensity for off-court shenanigans that lead to injury and his subsequent indifference will lead to his attempted strangling by team captain LeBron James during a nationally televised game. Bynum will sue for millions but will still manage to be bankrupt by 2015.

**9** **Hollywood K.O.** 2013 brought the Knockout Game into public consciousness. It involves one person sucker-punching an unsuspecting victim while another films it for public consumption on YouTube. In 2014, the brutal pastime will spawn a new reality series where each week, a different Hollywood celebrity will be filmed sucker-punching Perez Hilton.

**10** **Sounds about right.** Neither the Maple Leafs nor the Canadiens will earn a playoff berth in 2014. This may not be a revelation, but is more likely to come true than any of the above.

So, dear friends, remember to love like you've never been hurt and dance like no one's watching, but if you actually catch someone watching, put your clothes back on immediately. Happy new year!

## ZOOM

### Martians-to-be shortlist announced



COURTESY BRYAN VERSTEEG/MARS ONE

#### 75 Canucks make list

Since he was a young boy, eagerly devouring science fiction books, Stephen Fenech has dreamed of being an astronaut.

Now, the Toronto man is a bit closer to reaching his lofty dream after learning that he is one of 75 Canadians selected as a candidate for a one-way mission to Mars.

"I'm vacillating between excitement and terror," said the 45-year-old seasoned traveller, who's visited 160 countries. "When I imagine myself not just in another country but on a

whole other planet, I would be so jazzed about being there."

The mission is being organized by Mars One, a Dutch-based not-for-profit. On Monday it announced that of about 202,500 applicants worldwide, 1,058 hopefuls had been selected as potential candidates. They will be whittled down to a group of up to 40 people, who will then train for about seven years.

An unmanned mission is slated for 2018, with Lockheed Martin in charge of building the Mars lander.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

#### Retirement years

"I know I'd be the guinea pig.... And I know I'm taking a chance.... But the way I see it is that my life will be winding down at that point anyway, so I might as well do something that's so fulfilling, not just to me but to our entire race."

Stephen Fenech, who figures that by the time the mission takes place he will be close to retirement, and ready for a new chapter.

#### \$1.5 billion a head

### \$6B

The goal is for Mars One to send the first crew of four in 2024, with additional groups departing every two years. It's an ambitious — and costly — project. Getting the first group to Mars will cost \$6 billion, with every additional manned mission costing \$4 billion. To finance the endeavour, the private organization is relying on sponsors and public support. Just last month it launched a crowdfunding campaign. As well, there are ongoing negotiations with media companies for the rights to a reality-TV show that would track the training process.

#### Clickbait



ANDREW FIFIELD

andrew.fifield@metronews.ca

Another iOS Kickstarter success story, République arrived on the App Store to much fanfare before Christmas. A hugely ambitious episodic stealth-action adventure, wrestled down to iOS size, it puts you in the role of Hope as she is held captive in a building run by an unpleasant totalitarian government. Needless to say, her captivity is short-lived.

Controls tend to be the biggest obstacle when it comes to shoving an action game onto an iOS device, but République nimbly clears that hurdle with a simple one-touch interface. Navigating Hope through each level begins and ends with a single touch wherever you want to place her. Of course, this being a stealth game, you're equipped with a tool that allows you to view your surroundings and their patrolling enemies by hacking into security

cameras — once again with one-touch control.

The beautiful animation and convincing voice acting leaves little doubt that developer Camouflaj is hoping to force a huge evolution in touchscreen gaming, and the first instalment of République is a convincing case that they're onto something. (iOS/\$4.99)



#### Twitter

@metropicks asked: The Bacon Man, running for mayor in Windsor, Ont., is promising free funerals for all. What's your outlandish pledge?

@glenharnish: A free fishing rod every season and a lifetime fishing licence. #wheredolovote?

@NinjaBot42: Subways! Subways! Subways! What? Aw crap.

@Rob\_Irvine\_Jr: I would promise that the Maple Leafs win a Stanley Cup...

@JohnKleinRegina: free-ish funerals seems like a good idea. Making dead people pay never really seems just. #notoutlandish

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## Synopsis

Out with the old and in with the new: 2013 contained many magnificent movie moments (and some bad ones as well, but let's not dwell on those) for the Reel Guys and it looks like 2014 will be just as bountiful. This week we gaze into our cinematic crystal balls and choose the films we're looking forward to in the new year.

## Reel Guys

**RICHARD CROUSE AND MARK BRESLIN**



On tap for 2014: Another RoboCop reboot. CONTRIBUTED

# New year, new films

**Lookahead.** From The Equalizer to 50 Shades of Grey, the Reel Guys make their movie picks for 2014

**Richard:** Mark, years ago I loved a show called The Equalizer. It starred Edward Woodward as a private detective who helped people in need "equalize the odds." It was a cool show, and as much as movie versions of programs like The A-Team and Starsky and Hutch have disappointed, I'm looking forward to this. Denzel Washington is masterful at playing ambiguous antiheroes and re-teaming him with his Train-

ing Day director Antoine Fuqua seems like a good idea to me.

**Mark:** Richard, I don't know the show but I do like Denzel. I do like Fuqua and I do like the concept. One movie I am looking forward to is The Monuments Men with George Clooney, Matt Damon and John Goodman as civilians pressed into battle during the Second World War to save art treasures from the Nazis. This should hit all the bases for me.

**RC:** Clooney is always cool, and he also directed the movie, so I'm keen to see it. I'm also very excited for The Zero Theorem. Terry Gilliam says his new film is the third part of the trilogy he began with

Brazil and continued with 12 Monkeys. If that isn't enough, it stars Christoph Waltz and Matt Damon. And did I mention it sprung from the wild mind of Terry Gilliam?

**MB:** Reality check: Whose last movie was the unwatchable The Imaginarium of Doctor Parnassus. When Gilliam stinks he stinks up the whole room. Just saying.... If it's sci-fi you're looking for, how about the RoboCop reboot, a franchise that's had more reboots than an Ugg store? Or Transcendence, which has a Philip K. Dick meets Body Snatchers sound to it. Appeals to the paranoid side of my split personality Richard...

**RC:** I liked Parnassus! It was

like a Salvador Dali painting come to life! Gilliam Rules! But there are other things I'm looking forward to, like Maleficent. The creepy but beautiful Sleeping Beauty villain is a role Angelina Jolie's cheekbones were born to play. If the movie is as cool looking as the clips I've seen, I'll go for the art direction alone.

**MB:** Sure, but I think we're both ignoring what must be the Greatest Movie of 2014 — the cinematic adaptation of the great novel Fifty Shades of Grey. C'mon, Richard, admit it, you'll be second in line to see it, only because I got there the night before... and I understand James Franco is playing the handcuffs.

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# The big films of a big 2014



## Remakes and sequels

### **Transformers: Age of Extinction (June 27)**

Mark Wahlberg takes over for Shia LaBeouf as the human stand-in amidst Michael Bay's gargantuan metal extravaganza, now on its fourth installment. Fingers crossed for dinobots.

### **X-Men: Days of Future Past (May 23)**

Bryan Singer steps back into the director's chair for the franchise he started 14 years ago, bringing together a massive cast combining actors from the original films and the most recent X-Men: First Class for a time-hopping storyline cribbed from the comics. It's almost too much to take.

### **Captain America: The Winter Soldier (April 4)**

Chris Evans' Cap gets his first solo outing since The Avengers in a story that pits him both against a mysterious terrorist with connections to his past and his own government, in the form of S.H.I.E.L.D. boss Alexander Pierce (Robert Redford).

### **Godzilla (May 16)**

It's been more than 15 years since Roland Emmerich's go-at-the-giant-monster franchise landed with a thud,



so maybe it's safe to unleash the big green guy again, this time in a film starring Bryan Cranston.

### **Jack Ryan: Shadow Recruit (Jan. 17)**

This Tom Clancy franchise reboot was supposed to hit theatres this Christmas, but Paramount pushed it back a month. If anything, it should keep the latest Jack Ryan, Chris Pine, busy between Star Trek outings.

## Big gambles

### **Noah (March 28)**

Darren Aronofsky follows up Black Swan with a massive, super-expensive biblical epic starring Russell Crowe as the most famous ship-builder ever. A serious gamble for all involved, especially considering all of the sinking ship jokes critics could make if it



## The Amazing Spider-Man 2 (May 2)

Sony's holding on tight to its Marvel property, pitting current Spidey Andrew Garfield against a host of threats like Electro (Jamie Foxx), the Rhino (Paul Giamatti) and the Green Goblin. Plus, they've got a series of spin-off movies to launch.

falters.

### **Interstellar (Nov. 7)**

All we know is that it's by Christopher Nolan and it involves wormholes and space travel and it stars, among others, Matthew McConaughey, Anne Hathaway, Jessica Chastain and Michael Caine. So we're basically already there.

### **Maleficent (May 30)**

While technically using an existing property, Disney is taking quite a risk by making one of their biggest baddies

(embodied by Angelina Jolie) the main character of her own movie. Sleeping Beauty won't know what hit her.

## Future cult favourites

### **Veronica Mars (March 14)**

The little Kickstarter campaign that could is officially getting a big theatrical rollout as opposed to the limited, VOD-heavy release they'd initially planned. The follow-up to Rob Thomas' cult-classic TV show about a high-school private eye (Kristen Bell) has a wave of goodwill behind it, with a growing audience base

willing it to succeed.

### **Knight of Cups (TBA)**

Without even a solid release date nailed down, all we know about Terrence Malick's latest is that it stars Oscar-winners Christian Bale and Natalie Portman and it's about "a man, temptations, celebrity and excess." Sounds interesting.

### **The Grand Budapest Hotel (March 7)**

Wes Anderson follows up the delightful Moonrise Kingdom with what appears to be the most Wes Anderson film of

all time with a jam-packed cast including Ralph Fiennes, Tilda Swinton, Bill Murray, Edward Norton and Jude Law.

### **The Lego Movie (Feb. 7)**

Possibly the most welcome film adaptation of a children's toy in movie history — call it the anti-Transformers — this animated adventure looks to be pop-culture-skewering fun, with Chris Pratt, Morgan Freeman and Liam Neeson leading an all-star voice cast.

## Based on a bestseller

### **Divergent (March 21)**

The presumptive next big sci-fi film franchise based on a young-adult book series kicks off with Shailene Woodley starring as a special girl challenging a dystopian society.

### **Unbroken (Dec. 25)**

Christmas next year will bring Angelina Jolie's second film as a director, again with harrowing themes. This time it's the true-life tale of an Olympic runner and Japanese Second World War prisoner of war, from a book by the author of Seabiscuit.

### **Edge of Tomorrow (June 6)**

Hiroshi Sakurazaka's futuristic novel All You Need is Kill gets the big-screen treatment with Tom Cruise starring as a soldier caught in an alien war version of Groundhog Day.

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# Local musician ensures one fan's new year begins on a sweet note

**Wish granted.** Cancer patient wanted some inspiration for 2014 — in the form of a note from Matt Mays



**BACKSTAGE PASS**  
Jenna Conter  
halifax@metronews.ca

For someone who writes about local goings-on of the entertainment scene, I'm so thankful that I get to do so in a city like Halifax.

With a few weeks until I hit the three-year mark with Metro, I had the most amazing "small world" event take place over the holiday season.

I should preface this column with the confession that I haven't always been the most appreciative Haligonian.

Like most "born-and-raised" here, I hum and haw over the simple pleasures of the big-but-oh-so-small city life.

I never quite understood why hundreds of cruise ships dock at our port here — on purpose — yet I take it personally when people categorize my hometown as simply a "great place to go



Matt Mays obliged one fan's request for an inspirational note. CONTRIBUTED

to school."

However, having had the chance to live away in entertainment meccas such as New York City, the time away from Halifax allowed for some much needed reflection.

Nothing cemented my love for the small-town, friendly nature of my city

more than the events that transpired over the past few weeks.

I met Dori Chandler through email. My cousin's nanny has been fighting like a dog against the metastatic breast cancer that has spread to her liver and lymph nodes and recently robbed her of the vision in her left eye.

Here's a quote from the email I received from my cousin:

"Dori has always been an amazing young woman full of common sense, high spirits and ambition... She underwent chemo, a mastectomy and radiation (which caused third-degree burns). She had to quit her



Dori Chandler said one way to keep up her spirits during her cancer fight would be to have a note from Matt Mays. CONTRIBUTED

job yet still managed to run a winter coat drive from her sick-bed gathering in 500 warm coats for the needy."

Dori is adamant that she'll "keep on swimming" and keep her spirits up despite what she battles health-wise each day.

Her request?

Here is a note from Dori's Facebook: "I was just thinking about a way to lift my spirits since it appears I have a long road in front of me. ...My dream would be to get a note from Matt Mays ...I have all intentions to then display (it) on a large canvas so I have all of you

to turn to on bad days. ...My INSPIRATION WALL."

It took an email and a few Facebook messages between friends in the entertainment business before I soon received word that Dori got her wish — and a letter from Mays.

I know we see things like this all the time, but it strikes a deeper chord when the process occurs so quickly and right in front of you. I'm truly happy to be from a place that so highly regards "the right thing to do" over celebrity facades.

Happy new year everyone.

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# METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

## Top celeb travel moments of 2013

A monster-infested lake in Scotland, a picturesque seaside town in Italy and a celebrated party island in Spain were featured on travelocity.ca's list of the top celebrity travel moments of the past year — a list compiled from the results of a national survey. Whose beach trips, brawls and destination weddings came up tops? Read on to find out. TEXT: METRO, TRAVEL PHOTOS: ISTOCK, CELEB PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES



Canadian men chose Charlie Sheen's Loch Ness monster hunting trip to Scotland as the as their most memorable celeb travel moment.



Canadian men chose Leonardo DiCaprio's yacht trip to Ibiza, Spain, as the moment they would most want to recreate.



Canadian women most wished they could recreate Avril Lavigne and Chad Kroeger's trip to Portofino, Italy, where they exchanged vows.



Jay-Z and Beyoncé's highly publicized trip to Cuba was the number four most memorable moment of the year.

### The Word

## The sky's the limit for LaBeouf's mea culpa

Shia LaBeouf may have finally managed to write an apology for plagiarism that is not, itself, plagiarized. The Beef came under fire recently when it came to light



that his short film Howard-Cantour.com bore similarities to Daniel Clowes's comic Justin M. Damiano. The actor has since apologized several

times, but since his apologies themselves seemed cobbled together from other works, it was hard to believe he was taking his transgression seriously.

Well, now at least he's working on it. Early this Thursday morning, Shia tweeted a pic of the words "I am sorry Daniel Clowes" in skywriting.

He didn't just photoshop that skywriting either. Ac-

cording to Variety, LaBeouf's contrition was visible across the L.A. sky on Wednesday.

"Mr. Clowes, I can only ask that you view my apology as a stepping stone toward repairing this misunderstanding between us. I'm sorry," he tweeted on New Year's Eve. All this may or may not come as any comfort to Mr. Clowes, who lives in San Francisco, not L.A.

MELINDA TAUB/METRO

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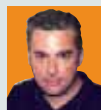
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## Liquid Assets

Trends to  
wine about

**LIQUID ASSETS**  
Peter Rockwell  
@therealwineguy  
liquidassets@eastlink.ca  
Facebook: therealwineguy

If Facebook is any indication, many of you are reminiscing about the last 12 months. Not me. I'm all about the future and booze trends that will define 2014.

Gazing into my crystal wine goblet, I see Old World wines solidifying their comeback. I'm talking the juice squeezed out of France, Italy and Spain easing you out of your South American rut.

That's not to say the New World won't see brighter days. Australia will show signs of rejuvenation with smaller wineries from specific regions making their personalities known.

Whites will gain ground from reds, while red blends will continue to attract the palates of the population.

Wines from a box will be invited to the dinner table, and second-tier grapes like aglianico, albariño and garnacha will be on the tip of your tongue.

The most ground-breaking trend will be flavoured wines, especially those made with, wait for it, chocolate. Chocolate Shop Red (\$15.95 - \$15.99) and ChocolatRouge Sweet Red (\$13.99 - \$17.99) have already brought their confectionary flavour flow to store shelves. I guarantee that more will follow in 2014. **PRICES REFLECT RANGE ACROSS COUNTRY. SOME PRODUCTS MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE IN ALL PROVINCES.**



# Meet the star of the 2014 foodie scene

**Predictions.** Experts have checked the old crystal ball and report that the veggie of the year will be — wait for it — cauliflower



**ROSE REISMAN**  
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Cauliflower is the new kale, salt is the new pepper and doughnuts and burgers are going gangbusters — at least, that's what food-trend watchers are predicting for 2014.

"I would say that cauliflower is the new kale and will definitely surpass kale this year," says Christine Couvelier, executive chef and global culinary trendologist. Cauliflower can be mashed, grilled, broiled or

## Ingredients

- 1 head roasted garlic
- 1 1/2 lb Yukon Gold potatoes cut into wedges, unpeeled
- 1 lb raw cauliflower, broken into pieces
- 2 cups diced onions
- 2 tsp vegetable oil
- 1 tbsp brown sugar
- 1 tbsp olive oil
- 1 tbsp sesame oil
- 1/4 cup 2% milk
- 3/4 cup frozen shelled edamame, blanched
- pinch of salt and pepper



This Roasted Potato Cauliflower and Edamame Mash serves 8. MIKE MCCOLL, FROM THE BEST OF ROSE REISMAN (WHITECAP BOOKS)

cut in steaks and barbecued, served on its own or in salad or tossed with herbs and oils.

Here, it's teamed with edamame to add more nutrients and flavour to regular mashed potatoes. Roasting the vegetables brings out a more intense flavour than boiling, as does the addition of sweet caramelized onions.

1. Preheat oven to 400 F. Line a baking sheet with foil sprayed

with vegetable oil. Cut the top off the garlic head and wrap with foil and place on the baking sheet along with the potatoes and cauliflower. Spray the vegetables with vegetable oil. Roast for 30 minutes or just until tender, turning occasionally. Squeeze out the cloves of garlic.

2. Meanwhile, add onions to a skillet along with the vegetable oil and sauté on medium heat for 10 minutes just until tender.

Add the brown sugar and sauté for another 5 minutes.

3. Mash potato wedges with skin in a large bowl. Place the cauliflower in a food processor along with the olive oil, sesame oil and milk and purée. Add to the mashed potatoes along with the onions, garlic cloves and edamame. Add the salt and pepper. **THE BEST OF ROSE REISMAN (WHITECAP BOOKS) BY ROSE REISMAN/FILES FROM THE CANADIAN PRESS**

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# Pale, patterned and pretty all over

**The house that hues built.** Pastel shades and retro inspiration set to dominate home decor in 2014

Whether you're seeking to make a minor ripple or sizable splash in your home in 2014, prognosticators are hoping to help make the new year a stylish one with predictions of noteworthy new looks in decor.

Suzanne Dimma, editor-in-chief of House and Home Magazine and Benjamin Moore colour expert Sharon Grech share their views on notable trends and suggestions on how to incorporate the changes within your interiors.

## Cool hues

Colour trendsetter Pantone opted for vibrant pop with the selection of Radiant Orchid — a purple hue infused with hot pink — as its colour of the year for 2014.

But the ultra-bold shade seems to be the exception



Benjamin Moore paint colour Lavender Mist is seen on the walls while paint colour White Dove is used as the trim. BENJAMIN MOORE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

rather than the rule with a sleek yet more subdued palette of colours emerging for home interiors.

Paint manufacturer Benjamin Moore selected Breath of

Fresh Air — a pale, sky blue hue — as its colour of the year. While there were several examples of deep blue, teal and purple featured in its 2014 Colour Trends Guide,

the company's standout hue for the new year was among a vast array of softer shades like Distant Gray, Peach Parfait and Lavender Mist.

Grech said the intention was to create a collection of colours that weren't specific to one particular style as has been customary in the past.

"Even though it's often the most economical part of your design project, it takes up a lot of space. And if you get that too strong, that's what you'll notice," she said in reference to paint colour choice. "Even if you spend a ton of money on your new sofa or your Carrara marble countertop, if you get the paint colour wrong, it throws everything off."

In the vein of paler hues, Dimma suggested opting for a soft grey which she described as "a new neutral."

"That's a huge change from white, and that will imbue everything with so

much warmth," she said.

## Pretty patterns

From the walls to tables to floors, there are no shortage of spaces to adorn with colourful prints. House and Home spotlighted blue and white dishware, painted tiles, whimsical wall murals and geometric wallpaper and fabrics among its decorating dos for 2014.

For those seeking to make a splash with a fresh print, Dimma suggested seeking out a Persian or Turkish rug. "That's an easy thing. Roll out a new rug and you're going to get a whole new look."

## Classic and contemporary

While rugs and wall coverings are decidedly more bold, there is a more minimalist approach being seen in other core pieces for the coming year. Dimma high-



Breath of Fresh Air, the Benjamin Moore Colour of the Year for 2014, is seen on the walls. BENJAMIN MOORE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

lighted '50s-inspired chairs as well as more contemporary sculptural lighting fixtures, both of which conjure a modern vibe.

She isn't surprised to see the gravitation towards retro-inspired '50s and '60s-era furnishings.

"When you think about it, we always find through cycles in design that we look back and then we make it new again, and it's probably just at that point in the cycle," said Dimma. THE CANADIAN PRESS



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Canada's Zachary Fucale makes a save during quarter-final world junior hockey championship action in Malmo, Sweden, on Thursday. FRANK GUNN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

# Canada cuts through Swiss to get to semis

**World juniors.** Canucks move on to face Finland

Anthony Mantha has Canada a win away from reaching the final at the world junior hockey championship.

Mantha got the game-winner on a penalty shot while defenceman Griffin Reinhart added a goal and an assist as Canada beat Switzerland 4-1 on Thursday to reach the semi-final round.

The Canadians will face Finland, which rallied for a 5-3 quarter-final win over the

## Quarter-final round

4

Canada

1

Switzerland

Czech Republic on Saturday at Malmo Arena.

"They're a good team — we saw that in the exhibition game," said Reinhart, whose team dominated the final two periods of a pre-tournament game against the Finns on

Dec. 20. "Every team now is going to be a hard game.

"It'll take a lot of discipline and you've got to stick to your systems."

Forward Curtis Lazar and defenceman Derrick Pouliot also scored for Canada, which had only one Mathew Dumba goal from its back end in four previous tournament games.

The Finns promise to give Canada a similar test to the Swiss, with the accent on team play and defence. But Finland has some dangerous shooters led by ace playmaker Teuvo Teravainen.

"It's going to be an intense

game and there's nothing more to it," said Lazar, who has scored in three straight games. "We're both trying to get into the final but we have to take it a step at a time and keep playing our Canadian brand of hockey.

"We played them in pre-competition, so we'll have to go over video and see if they've changed something up but the main thing is to focus on our own game. There's not much room for error so we have to bring our A-game."

Canada improved to 20-0-0 all-time against the Swiss.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## World juniors

### Russia knocks off reigning champs

Russia beat the United States 5-3 in quarter-final play at the world junior hockey championship on Thursday, rallying to take the lead on Nikita Zadorov's two power-play goals.

Zadorov scored on 5-on-3 advantages in a 1:01 span in the second period to give Russia a 4-3 lead.

Russia will face Sweden, a 6-0 winner over Slovakia, in the semifinals Saturday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## FIFA

### President finds divers 'irritating'

FIFA president Sepp Blatter wants to clamp down on play-acting in soccer by introducing an unofficial sin-bin for players who feign injury.

In his column for FIFA Weekly entitled "Stop the amateur dramatics," the head of world football's governing body said he finds it "deeply irritating" when "the (supposedly) half-dead player comes back to life as soon as they have left the pitch."

Blatter urged referees to make these players wait on the touchline so their absence has an effect on their team.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



The president of FIFA wants to make divers pay. GETTY IMAGES FILE

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8pm DAL vs. Bishop's	8pm DAL vs. UPEI	7pm DAL vs. ACA

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# Five ways the Raptors can stay hot

The Toronto Raptors find themselves at .500 after 30 games of a season for the first time since 2010 — and are one of just four Eastern Conference teams at that level or better. How did it happen? Where do they go from here? Here are five things to think about.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

## Defined roles

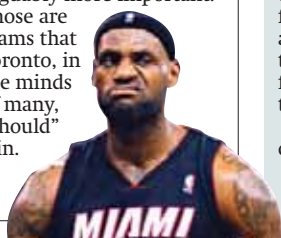
Coach Dwane Casey struggled early in the season to find the right group of players who could consistently fill roles and produce.

Now? With the arrival of a veteran package in the Rudy Gay trade, he has settled on a nine-man rotation — starters Kyle Lowry, DeMar DeRozan, Terrence Ross, Amir Johnson and Jonas Valanciunas, and backups Greivis Vasquez, John Salmons, Patrick Patterson and Tyler Hansbrough — that is finally getting wins.



## Tough road ahead

While the Raptors have been one of the league's best road teams so far — one of only three Eastern Conference teams with a winning road record — they face significant road games in the next month that will be telling. There are away games against Miami and Indiana in the next week that will be difficult, but road dates at Washington, Boston, Charlotte and Philadelphia are arguably more important. Those are teams that Toronto, in the minds of many, "should" win.



## True teamwork

There is no doubt that Rudy Gay is a talented NBA player, but this is a league of fit — and the fit just didn't work at the end of his Toronto tenure.

Without him in the lineup, the Raptors are more freely moving the ball, they are passing up good shots to get better ones, and the feeling of camaraderie on the court is palpable.

"Everything everyone's doing out there is what they know how to do ..." said Lowry.

## The kids are all right

The production from second-year players Valanciunas and Ross in this torrid streak cannot be understated.

Valanciunas has been rock steady defensively, not needing any help against some of the top centres in the East, and that has allowed his teammates to worry primarily about their men rather than having to help a youngster out.

Ross has been a revelation, showing Casey a more consistent effort in the

past 2 1/2 weeks.



## The closers

It's known as "winning time" — those crucial few minutes near the end of close games.

For the longest time, the Raptors seemed to do just enough to lose rather than just enough to win.

No more.

In nine of their last 12 games, they have outscored the opposition in the final quarter.

## Jay Cutler

### Bears sign QB to seven-year deal

The Chicago Bears signed Jay Cutler to a seven-year contract Thursday, ending speculation that they might make a change at quarterback after five seasons.

Terms of the deal were not disclosed, but it is reportedly worth nearly \$18 million per year over the first three years and includes at least \$50 million guaranteed.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Lovie Smith

### Buccaneers hire new head coach

The Buccaneers say Lovie Smith is the ideal man to coach Tampa Bay.

The team made it official Thursday, announcing the one-time Tony Dungy protege who led the Chicago Bears to the Super Bowl seven years ago finalized a five-year contract that he had reportedly agreed to on Wednesday. He will be formally introduced at a news conference next Monday.

Smith, 55, replaces Greg Schiano, who was fired Monday following a 4-12 finish. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## NFL. Big chill could make for frozen wild-card game

Cold hands and a hard foot-ball make for tough catches on chilly winter afternoons at Lambeau Field.

But the arctic front expected to push through Wisconsin in time for this weekend's NFC wild-card game promises to bring conditions considered frigid even for the famous home of the "frozen tundra."

Temperatures will be in the single digits (Fahrenheit) and dropping when the San Francisco 49ers and Green Bay Packers kick off Sunday afternoon. Maybe the teething-chattering cold will give the Packers an edge to snap a three-game skid against San Francisco.

"It stings a little bit more outside," cornerback Tramon Williams said Thursday about ball drills. Wearing a stocking cap, wind pants and snow boots, Williams looked as if he was getting ready to join a sub-zero tailgate.

"Can't dodge it, man," he said with a laugh. "Can't dodge it at all. But, yeah, it's going to be a cold one, one of those rare ones."

The Packers (8-7-1) might have an advantage in that they'll have practised two days outdoors this week. They're



A Packers fan wears a frozen Lambeau Field hat. GETTY IMAGES FILE

soaring with confidence after beating the Bears on a cold day at Chicago's Soldier Field last weekend to win the NFC North title.

But the already below-normal temperatures in the teens Thursday might feel balmy compared to Sunday's big chill.

The coldest game on record is the 1967 championship game, known as the "Ice Bowl" won by the Packers 21-17 over the Dallas Cowboys at Lambeau on New Year's Eve. The temperature dipped to minus-13, and the wind chill that day made it feel like minus-48. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## NHL

### EASTERN CONFERENCE

ATLANTIC DIVISION									
	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt		
Boston	41	27	12	2	120	88	56		
Tampa Bay	40	24	12	4	114	95	52		
Montreal	42	24	14	4	109	98	52		
Toronto	42	21	16	5	118	120	47		
Detroit	42	18	14	10	109	120	46		
Ottawa	43	18	17	7	122	138	43		
Florida	41	15	20	6	96	130	36		
Buffalo	41	11	26	4	72	117	26		

METROPOLITAN DIVISION									
	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt		
Pittsburgh	42	29	12	1	131	96	59		
Washington	41	20	15	6	125	123	46		
Philadelphia	41	20	17	4	106	113	44		
NY Rangers	41	20	19	2	96	109	42		
New Jersey	41	17	16	8	97	103	42		
Carolina	41	16	16	9	100	121	41		
Columbus	41	18	19	4	111	117	40		
NY Islanders	42	14	21	7	110	140	35		

### Thursday's results

Boston 3 Nashville 2 (OT)  
NY Islanders 3 Chicago 2 (OT)  
Carolina 4 Washington 3 (OT)  
Ottawa 4 Winnipeg 3  
Minnesota 4 Buffalo 1  
St. Louis 5 Los Angeles 0  
Montreal 6 Dallas 4  
Colorado 2 Philadelphia 1  
Columbus 2 Phoenix 0  
Edmonton at San Jose

### Wednesday's results

Toronto 3 Detroit 2 (SO)  
Tampa Bay 4 Vancouver 2

### Friday's games

All Times Eastern  
Chicago at New Jersey, 7 p.m.  
NY Rangers at Pittsburgh, 7 p.m.  
Tampa Bay at Calgary, 9 p.m.  
Edmonton at Anaheim, 10 p.m.

### Saturday's games

Winnipeg at Boston, 1 p.m.  
San Jose at Colorado, 3 p.m.  
Nashville at Florida, 7 p.m.  
New Jersey at Buffalo, 7 p.m.  
NY Rangers at Toronto, 7 p.m.

### WESTERN CONFERENCE

CENTRAL DIVISION									
	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt		
Chicago	43	28	7	8	160	118	64		
St. Louis	40	28	7	5	144	93	61		
Colorado	40	25	11	4	116	101	54		
Dallas	40	20	13	7	119	119	47		
Minnesota	43	21	17	5	101	110	47		
Winnipeg	43	19	19	5	117	125	43		
Nashville	41	18	18	5	97	122	41		

PACIFIC DIVISION									
	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt		
Anaheim	42	29	8	5	137	106	63		
San Jose	40	25	9	6	131	104	56		
Los Angeles	42	25	13	4	110	88	54		
Vancouver	42	23	12	7	113	101	53		
Phoenix	40	20	11	9	120	122	49		
Calgary	40	14	20	6	96	126	34		
Edmonton	42	13	24	5	109	143	31		

Note: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss.

Ottawa at Montreal, 7 p.m.  
Carolina at NY Islanders, 7 p.m.  
Detroit at Dallas, 8 p.m.  
Washington at Minnesota, 8 p.m.  
Columbus at St. Louis, 8 p.m.  
Philadelphia at Phoenix, 8 p.m.  
Vancouver at Los Angeles, 10 p.m.

### Sunday's games

Winnipeg at Pittsburgh, 1 p.m.  
Nashville at Carolina, 7 p.m.  
Tampa Bay at Edmonton, 8 p.m.  
San Jose at Chicago, 8 p.m.  
Vancouver at Anaheim, 8 p.m.

## NFL

### PLAYOFFS

#### WILD CARD

All Times Eastern  
Saturday's games  
Kansas City at Indianapolis, 4:35 p.m.  
New Orleans at Philadelphia, 8:10 p.m.  
Sunday's games  
San Diego at Cincinnati, 1:05 p.m.  
San Francisco at Green Bay, 4:40 p.m.

## NBA

### Casey named coach of the month in the East

Toronto Raptors head coach Dwane Casey was named NBA Eastern Conference coach of the month Thursday. Casey guided the Raptors to an 8-6 record in December, including road wins over the Mavericks and Thunder.

Jeff Hornacek of the Suns was named Western Conference coach of the month. THE CANADIAN PRESS

## NBA

### Curry, Warriors stay gold vs. Heat

Stephen Curry scored 36 points and handed out 12 assists, and David Lee scored 32 points as the Golden State Warriors beat the Miami Heat 123-114 Thursday night and extended the NBA's longest current winning streak to seven games. LeBron James scored 26 points for the Heat. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## NBA

### EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
d-Indiana	25	6	.806	—
d-Miami	24	8	.750	1 1/2
Atlanta	18	14	.563	7 1/2
d-Toronto	15	15	.500	9 1/2
Washington	14	15	.483	10
Charlotte	14	19	.424	12
Detroit	14	19	.424	12
Chicago	13	18	.419	12
Boston	13	19	.406	12 1/2
Cleveland	11	21	.344	14 1/2
Brooklyn	11	21	.344	14 1/2
Philadelphia	10	21	.323	15
New York	10	21	.323	15
Orlando	10	22	.313	15 1/2
Milwaukee	7	25	.219	18 1/2

### WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
d-Portland	25	7	.781	—
Oklahoma City	25	7	.781	—
d-San Antonio	25	8	.758	1/2
d-L.A. Clippers	22	12	.647	4
Houston	21	13	.618	5
Golden State	21	13	.618	5
Phoenix	19	12	.613	5 1/2
Dallas	19	13	.594	6
Minnesota	16	16	.500	9
New Orleans	14	16	.467	10
Memphis	14	17	.452	10 1/2
Denver	14	17	.452	10 1/2
L.A. Lakers	13	19	.406	12
Sacramento	10	20	.333	14
Utah	11	24	.314	15 1/2

x - clinched playoff berth; y - division; z - conference.

### Thursday's results

Cleveland 87 Orlando 81 OT  
Golden State 123 Miami 114  
Brooklyn 95 Oklahoma City 93  
Chicago 94 Boston 82  
New York 105 San Antonio 101  
Utah 96 Milwaukee 87  
Memphis 99 Phoenix 91  
Philadelphia at Sacramento  
Charlotte at Portland  
Wednesday's results  
Dallas 87 Washington 78  
Toronto 95 Indiana 82  
Minnesota 124 New Orleans 112  
Philadelphia 114 Denver 102  
L.A. Clippers 112 Charlotte 85



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For those without a Metro,  
 the forecast calls for  
 "I dunno" with a slight  
 chance of "huhhh?"





## Horoscopes

### Aries

March 21 - April 20

No matter how outrageous your ideas may seem to some, you must trust your instincts and follow up on them. Allow your inner voice to guide you and don't be surprised when it all works out perfectly.

### Taurus

April 21 - May 21

The planets will present a solution to a problem you thought was here to stay. You should know that everything worth knowing is revealed over time, so be patient.

### Gemini

May 22 - June 21

It seems you have been talking at cross purposes with a loved one and that is why you have not been getting along. It is time to sit down and be honest with one another. Yes, of course you can be friends again.

### Cancer

June 22 - July 23

Your mind is extraordinarily active at the moment and that's good, but make sure you write down any insights you have, otherwise you may forget them by the end of the day.

### Leo

July 24 - Aug. 23

Do something creative today. The current cosmic climate makes it easy for you to give form to your ideas. It also makes it easy for you to impress important people.

### Virgo

Aug. 24 - Sept. 23

Something that made no sense before will make perfect sense today. Most likely the thing itself has not changed but the way you look at it has. Next time, try listening to what friends try to tell you.

### Libra

Sept. 24 - Oct. 23

Even if you are one of those rare Librans who prefers to keep thoughts private, you will have plenty to say today. The only danger is you may reveal too much valuable information.

### Scorpio

Oct. 24 - Nov. 22

News you have been waiting for will arrive today and put an end to a worrying phase. Whether the news is good or bad is unimportant. What matters is that at last you know where you stand.

### Sagittarius

Nov. 23 - Dec. 21

Whatever you decide over the next two or three days will have a major effect on your future, so think ahead and make sure you are embarking on a course that is right for you. Don't listen to others, listen to yourself.

### Capricorn

Dec. 22 - Jan. 20

Try not to live in the past or lament your mistakes, because what happens next will make up for what you appear to have lost. Resolve to always look forward and never look back.

### Aquarius

Jan. 21 - Feb. 19

You appear to believe that the whole wide world is against you. Stop the foolish imaginings and look on the bright side for a change. Life is what you choose to make of it.

### Pisces

Feb. 20 - March 20

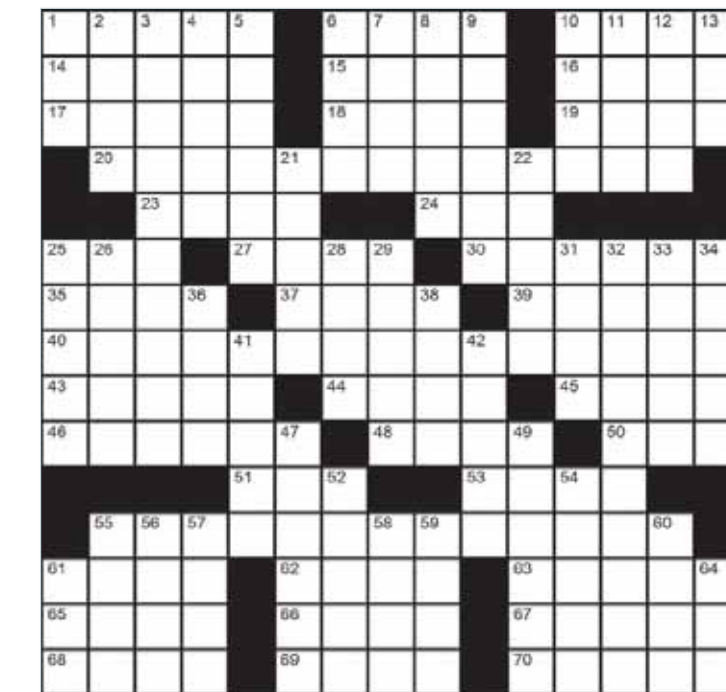
Whatever your special talent is, put it to good use. If a chance arises in your work or career, grab it with both hands and don't worry that you may not be up to the task. You'll ace it.

SALLY BROMPTON

## Crossword: Canada Across and Down

### Across

1. Tug-\_\_\_
6. Stars in movies
10. Serving need
14. Patriot Games (1992) producer, Robert \_\_\_
15. Target hitter in a bar game
16. Lively
17. Canadian singer/songwriter Sarah
18. Wing-shaped
19. Wreck
20. Calgary Flames great in the Hockey Hall of Fame: 2 wds.
23. Chinook salmon
24. Tokyo, formerly
25. Little bark
27. 19th Greek alphabet letters
30. Manicurist's lacquer
35. Nike slogan, "Just \_\_\_"
37. Parking place
39. School: French
40. Current award-winning novel by Canadian author Colleen McAdam: 3 wds.
43. Cantaloupe, for one
44. Mork's greeting, partially
45. \_\_\_ about
46. Introduces more to the mix: 2 wds.
48. Tapes shows (abbr.)
50. Belonging to Nashville's li'l state



51. Flooring choice
53. Flew the \_\_\_ (Went away)
55. Lotto Max purchaser's dream: 2 wds.
61. Earring spot
62. Stead
63. "I'll take \_\_\_ check."
65. Car rental com-

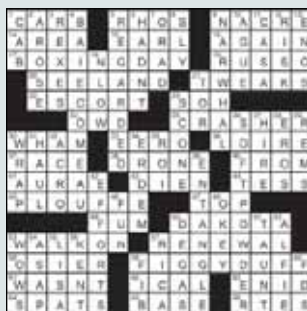
- pany
66. Immature news album: \_\_\_ Soul
67. Elaine \_\_\_, Marilu Henner's Taxi character
68. Outperform
69. Escritoire
70. Stranded, as a castaway
- Down**
1. Hosp. sites

2. Tumbled
3. The Guess Who album: \_\_\_ Soul
4. Love Is \_\_\_ Splendid Thing (1955)
5. Milk curdling substance
6. Eve's beloved
7. Advanced math course, for short
8. 'T' of NAFTA

9. Walked confidently
10. Ms. Banks
11. Actor Mr. Julia
12. Desert's climate
13. Yearning
21. Bread-making ingredient
22. Musical group of nine
25. Commander \_\_\_ (Lorne Greene's

- Battlestar Galactica role)
26. Cloaked
28. \_\_\_ Smoke (1978) starring Cheech And Chong
29. To date: 2 wds.
31. Prefix to "bat" (Circus performer)
32. City which is Newfoundland's second largest after St. John's: 2 wds.
33. Musicdom's Sir John
34. Glassmaking ovens
36. New Mexico's artsy town
38. Song
41. Barbara Stanwyck movie, \_\_\_ Pacific (1939)
42. Soap opera legend Susan
47. Used a hammer
49. "\_\_\_!" (You're not the only one who is capable!)
52. Songbook standard: Mack the \_\_\_
54. Gumbo ingredients
55. Created tapestries
56. Nile wader
57. Bird's bed
58. Becomes
59. 1979 Fleetwood Mac album
60. The \_\_\_ Is High by Blondie
61. Research \_\_\_
64. Agreement sign

### Dec. 27's Crossword



### Sudoku

#### How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

### Dec. 27's Sudoku

3	7	9	1	2	5	8	4	6
1	2	8	3	4	6	5	7	9
6	5	4	8	9	7	3	2	1
7	6	1	9	3	8	4	5	2
9	4	3	5	6	2	1	8	7
2	8	5	4	7	1	9	6	3
5	1	2	6	8	9	7	3	4
4	9	6	7	5	3	2	1	8
8	3	7	2	1	4	6	9	5

			2		7	4
2	1					
			4	6		3
4	6		8	3		5
	8				9	
	9		2	7		6
9		7	3			
					1	5
8	2		5			

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\*\*\* -11°/-19°

Light snow

80%

**Saturday**

☀️ -10°/-12°

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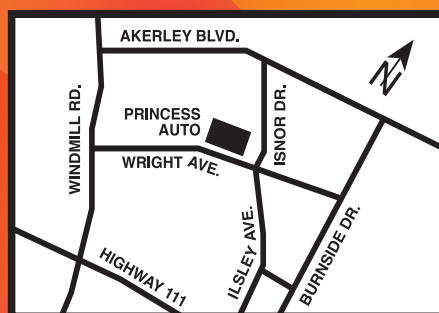
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